

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09148 021106Z

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

SECSTATE WASHDC 5666

AMCONSUL TANGIER

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS CAIRO 9148

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EG

SUBJ: MARCH 1978 MINING EQUIPMENT SEMINAR MISSION

REF: (A) STATE 077858 (B) CAIRO 8186 (C) USDOC 09517

(D) CAIRO 8613 (NOTAL) (E) CAIRO A-13 (F) CAIRO A-81

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT MINING EQUIPMENT SEMINAR MISSION WOULD BE USEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE. IN ADDITION TO PROJECTS NOTED REFTEL B, EGYPTIAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IS UNDERTAKING DEVELOPMENT OF PHOSPHATE AND OTHER MINERAL RESOURCES AND MINING EQUIPMENT WILL BE NEEDED AS THESE EFFORTS PROCEED. MOREOVER, EXPLOITATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES UNDER AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COMPANIES IN SAME MANNER USED SUCCESSFULLY FOR OIL (REF. D) WOULD, IF IT OCCURS, CREATE ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES.

2. WITH FOREGOING IN MIND, FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO QUESTIONS POSED REF A:

A) CAIRO SHOULD BE SITE OF SEMINAR ITSELF. THERE IS POSSIBILITY OF VISIT TO ONE OF PRINCIPAL MINING OR DEPOSIT SITES, BUT THIS WOULD TAKE CAREFUL PLANNING AS MOST ARE IN REMOTE LOCATIONS.

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B) NEW TECHNIQUES IN MINERALS EXPLORATION AND DETECTION; WORLD MARKET PROSPECTS FOR MAJOR EGYPTIAN MINERALS; MINERALS EXTRACTION AND TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT, ESPECIALLY FOR PHOSPHATES AND IRON ORE; MINERALS PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES, INCLUDING ORE BENEFICIATION AND RECYCLING OF WASTES.

C) SEE REF.B. PROCESSING AND MINERALS TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT ALSO HAVE GOOD PROSPECTS.

D) SEE 76 CAIRO A-203.

E) PRICE COMPETITIVENESS VARIES WITH TYPE OF EQUIPMENT. MUCH OF EQUIPMENT IN COUNTRY WAS PROVIDED UNDER SPECIAL ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS, WITHOUT COMPETITION.

F) USSR, ROMANIA, SWEDEN FOR MINING EQUIPMENT. JAPAN IN BROADER CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT LINES.

G) DATES OF CAIRO FAIR SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND, AS NOTED REF. A.

H) SEE REFS. B AND E.

I) IBRD IS INVOLVED IN IRON ORE BENEFICIATION STUDY. SEE REFS. B AND E FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

J) IDEA OF MINING EQUIPMENT SEMINAR MISSION HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH OFFICIALS OF EGYPTIAN FEDERATION OF INDUSTRIES AND OF EGYPTIAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY. BOTH ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN ASSISTING MISSION AND PARTICIPATING IN SEMINAR SESSIONS, ALTHOUGH THIS WOULD NOT AMOUNT TO FORMAL SPONSORSHIP.

EILTS

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